

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 PM-07 INR-10 DRC-01 RSC-01 /028 W

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O R 290526Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4736

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 1343

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM

USINFO ALSO FOR IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE S/PRS AND EA/P

CAMBODIAN SITUATIONER

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NIXON TO  
PRESIDENT LON NOL, WHICH WAS RELEASED BY THE KHMER GOVERNMENT  
YESTERDAY JANUARY 28:

HIS EXCELLENCY MARSHAL LON NOL

PRESIDENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

AS WE APPROACH THE ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S UNILATERAL  
CEASE-FIRE DECLARATION OF JANUARY 29, 1973, I WISH TO REAFFIRM  
THE FULL-HEARTED SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE VALIANT  
EFFORTS OF THE KHMER PEOPLE AND THEIR ELECTED LEADERS IN DEFENDING  
THE REPUBLIC WHILE PERSISTING IN GENEROUS OFFERS OF PEACE.

THE CONTINUING WARFARE IN CAMBODIA RESULTS SOLELY, I BELIEVE,  
FROM THE UNREASONING INTRANSIGENCE OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE AND  
KHMER COMMUNIST SUPPORTERS. HAD THEY RESPECTED YOUR GOVERNMENT'S  
CEASE - FIRE DECLARATION OR ACCEPTED YOUR PROPOSAL OF  
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JULY 6, PEACE WOULD NOW PREVAIL IN YOUR COUNTRY. REGRETTABLY,

THEY HAVE CHOSEN TO REJECT YOUR MAGNANIMOUS EFFORTS FOR PEACE AND TO PURSUE THE ILLUSION OF TOTAL VICTORY.

FACED WITH THE COMMUNIST DECISION TO FORCE A CONTINUATION OF THE FIGHTING, THE REPUBLIC HAS BUT ONE CHOICE IN THE CRITICAL PERIOD WHICH LIES AHEAD TO PRESEVERE IN STRENGTHENING ITS DEFENSE EFFORTS AND TO BUTTRESS THE SOLIDARITY OF ALL KHMER NATIONALISTS.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT UNDER YOUR VIGOROUS LEADER-SHIP AND THAT OF YOUR GOVERNMENT; THE REPUBLIC WILL SUCCEED IN THESE ENDEAVORS AND WILL CONVINCE ITS ENEMIES TO SEEK A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT.

THE UNITED STATES REMAINS FULLY DETERMINED TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO YOUR HEROIC SELF-DEFENSE AND WILL CONTINUE TO STAND SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE REPUBLIC IN THE FUTURE AS IN THE PAST.

AGAIN, LET ME EXPRESS MY CONTINUING ADMIRATION FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT'S STEADFAST EFFORTS TO RESIST AGGRESSION AND FOR YOUR OWN DEDICATION TO THE CAUSE OF KHMER INDEPENDENCE. THE KHMER PEOPLE WILL, I KNOW, BE REWARDED FOR THE SACRIFICES THEY HAVE MADE OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS.

SINCERELY, RICHARD NIXON

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